

8 August 1972

STATINTL

MEMORANDUM FOR: C/CTP

FROM :

SUBJECT :

Comments on [redacted] history of the JOTP/CTP

1. My overall reaction is that the author has accomplished a worthwhile purpose. He has provided an extremely detailed account of the Program from its inception. In those instances where I have had personal knowledge of the personae dramatis and events, I would judge his information accurate and comprehensively presented. He presents most of his material in a way that makes it more readable than it might otherwise be.

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2. Which leads to what my major criticism would be. If this is history he has let too many of his own opinions show through, and blatantly. I would question the advisability of including case study length accounts of such matters as the [redacted] solution to the problem. He seems in these cases to be slapping the backs of hands and sitting as a judge. The same would be my opinion of the overly detailed handling of the notorious OC 11 escapades. There I believe he has colored deliberately by his choice of adjectives.

3. He overreaches himself when he concludes the performances of two Program Chiefs were "almost flawless". This seems to me neither judicious nor necessary. I find not convincing his argument that the "elite corps" concept was already in existence (i.e. OSS) when this sobriquet was first applied to the JOTP. He appears in such an instance as attempting to defend persons, offices, or programs.

4. I didn't much care for his choice of several quotations. More specifically, the one from [redacted] makes the man an ass, in my judgment. His selection of that from [redacted] to a field recruiter outlining "qualifications" seemed to me to put the good Doctor in a less than favorable light.

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REF ID: A66666, DIST. ONLY

10 August 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Career Training Program

FROM

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SUBJECT

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History

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I question the objectivity of this history, despite my high regard for the writer, because the historian should not have been one of the protagonists. Many of the asides or illiminations provide answers at critical points which may only further a point of view.

REF ID: A66666, DIST. ONLY

14 November 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Training

SUBJECT: JOTP History

1. The consensus of the critics is that the JOT history is well written and comprehensive although flavored by personal opinion. I agree with the first judgment and strongly suggest disregarding the latter. Since an OTR careerist was assigned to write the history it must have been apparent at the outset that a certain amount of personal opinion would be injected: the alternative would have been assigning a stranger to OTR to do the writing. Inevitably he would have formed opinions as he researched and wrote.

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2. I believe the assignment of [ ] was by far the wisest course and since that decision was made it should not be diluted by adding the exceptions and contrary opinions of critics. Exceptions would be offensive to the author and would only serve to muddle an interesting and informative paper. The historian who writes the account from 1966 on will undoubtedly give is his personal imprint which may differ from [ ] interpretation of the earlier period. Both the past and future history should stand alone without being degraded by complaints or exception unless there is gross error or prejudice. In this instance there are neither thus the history should stand alone, as is.

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3 Oct 72

Hugh:

Thanks for your excellent proofreading of the SOT paper and your identification of factual errors. The typos and the errors are being corrected.

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I have read the comments of [redacted]

[redacted]

with interest and understanding. It is quite natural that we have different points of view and that our judgments, evaluations, and interpretations are not the same. It is also natural, perhaps, that we have different concepts of what history is. In any event, if the SOT paper is to be rewritten as an objective chronicle of events, I'm afraid that someone else will have to do it. I am now working on an assignment that will occupy my time fully until the end of the calendar year when my contract expires.

Again, thanks for your help.

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